

REMARKS

Applicants cancel claims 1-14 and insert new claims 15-23. No new matter has been added by the new claims. Applicants respectfully request an early and favorable action on the merits.

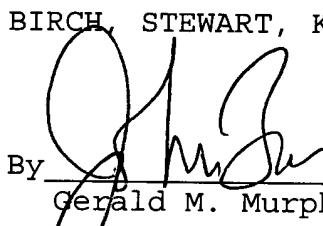
Entry of the above amendments is earnestly solicited. An early and favorable first action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Kecia J. Reynolds (Reg. 47,021) at the telephone number of the undersigned below.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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GMM/KJR/jmb
2815-0224P

Attachment(s) : Abstract